

Community Liaison Committee
Minutes of Meeting #6
May 12, 2010

Attendance: Marlene Coffey, Shelly Sarwal, Joanne Syms, Roberta Sharp, Geoff Wilson, Hilda Power **Regrets:** Boris Mirtchev, Rev. Linda Yates, Jennifer Watts, Lawrence Dewolfe

1. Ground Rules – The chairperson reviewed these again.

2. Membership – Susan MacLeod has informed the chair that she is resigning from the committee for personal reasons.

3. Minutes - Minutes of the last meeting (April 13, 2010) were approved as circulated and will be posted on the website.

4. Open House Review – Each committee member was asked to offer their impressions of the open house.

Marlene – The information from the HRM representative was useful.

Shelly – There was a rush in setting up the community station as attendees were present and mulling about at 6:45 although the event was not to start until 7pm. She was not aware that all components of the neighbourhood station for the open house needed to be approved by all members of the community liaison committee. She also stated that the station contained three letters in support of the proposed development and three letters of concern. These had been discussed with Roberta prior to the open house.

Roberta – The community station included three items that had not been discussed with this committee. 1. Design sketches from an individual who had not submitted a formal response to the RFP for architectural services; 2. model of the proposed building; 3. a letter of concern with a list of signatures.

Joanne – Although the CLC had decided on the open house format at the last meeting she had an expectation that a presentation would occur followed by a Q & A session and was disappointed that it did not. She had a different perspective on the history of the design sketches and supported their inclusion as a reasonable alternative. The letter of concern was included to give a balanced approach to the project as there were also letters of support included at the station. Joanne will send a copy of the letter and the signatures to the church office.

Geoff – The room set up caused congestion at the community and architects stations which was unfortunate as it could have been avoided by rearranging the room. He received a lot of positive feedback from the attendees.

Hilda – Could not comment as she was not in attendance.

5. Open House Evaluation Data – Copies of the complete data were distributed along with a report that summarized the key findings. Some members asked that both documents be made available on the website. These recommendations will be communicated to the Implementation Team.

The need for another information session was discussed with some members expressing the need as the architects did not answer some of the attendee's questions. Shelly stated at the previous meeting she had agreed with the concept of an open house because she had understood that a second information session would be considered and that the format of this session might be a presentation by the architects, if there was interest. The chair indicated that there were no plans at this time to proceed with a presentation by the architects as there was no additional information to share. The architects would need time to receive and respond to the feedback generated at the open house.

6. Terms of Reference – These were reviewed again and the suggestion was made that since the initial objectives of the committee have been met that the committee could adjourn until more development information is available.

7. Other Business – Marlene announced that since she is not in favour of a 7 story building she is resigning from the committee, however she supports the purpose of Spirit Place. She would like her letter of resignation appended to the minutes that will be viewed on the Church's web site. Joanne indicated that she has not felt that her voice and opinion has been heard on the committee and there have been no compromises made. She does not support the size and scale of the building and announced her resignation. Shelly announced that she is also resigning as she found the tone of the April 13 meeting confrontational and unfriendly and no longer wishes to place herself in such a situation. She asked that her letter of resignation be appended to these minutes. Geoff will continue to be involved. All members were thanked for their contributions.

8. Adjournment